

Interview Summary	Application No. 09/626,965	Applicant(s) OHASHI, TADASHI	
	Examiner GWEN LIANG	Art Unit 2162	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

- (1) GWEN LIANG. (3) _____
 (2) Mehdi D. Sheikerz. (4) _____

Date of Interview: 29 September 2005.

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference
 c) ☐ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No.
 If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: 1,2,4,7 and 9-11.

Identification of prior art discussed: _____.

Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☒ was reached. g) ☐ was not reached. h) ☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: See Continuation Sheet.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.


 Examiner's signature, if required

Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record

A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews

Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case. It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,
(The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: The applicant's representative has agreed and authorized the Examiner to make the following changes:

In the claims:

Replace claim 1 with the following text.

1. A component management system comprising:

a storage unit storing hardware and firmware related electronic information components as a hardware and firmware component knowledge database, each hardware and firmware related electronic information component being electronic information generated during processes including design, development, manufacture, and inspection, of a product,

wherein the hardware and firmware related electronic information components include at least one of a drawing of a hardware constituting the product, a firmware, a program, a specification, and a contract for the product, as the electronic information,

wherein said hardware and firmware related electronic information components as a variety of electronic information generated during the processes including the design, development, manufacture, and inspection of the product constitute a hierarchical structure in which the hardware and firmware related electronic information components are stored according to a numbering system common to both hardware and firmware electronic information components and added to each hardware and firmware electronic information component,

wherein said storage unit stores meta information according to Extensible Markup Language (XML) data expressing the hierarchical structure of the hardware and firmware related electronic information components and

wherein said hardware and firmware related electronic information components constituting said product are at a same management level;

a server which manages the hardware and firmware component knowledge database stored in said storage unit; and at least one client, which is connected to said server via a network, and accesses a desired hardware and firmware related electronic information component from said hardware and firmware related electronic information components constituting the hierarchical structure based on the meta information.

Replace claim 2 with the following text.

2. A component management device comprising:

a storage unit storing hardware and firmware related electronic information components as a hardware and firmware component knowledge database, each hardware and firmware related electronic information component being electronic information generated in processes including design, development, manufacture, and inspection, of a product,

wherein the hardware and firmware related electronic information components include at least one of a drawing of a hardware constituting the product, a firmware, a program, a specification, and a contract constituting the product, as; the electronic information,

wherein said hardware and firmware related electronic information components as a variety of electronic information generated during the processes including the design, development, manufacture, and inspection of the product constitute a hierarchical structure in which the hardware and firmware related electronic information components are stored according to a numbering system common to both hardware and firmware electronic information components and added to each hardware and firmware electronic information component,

wherein said storage unit stores meta information according to Extensible Markup Language (XML) data expressing the hierarchical structure of the hardware and firmware related electronic information components, and

wherein said hardware and firmware related electronic information components constituting said product are at a same management level; and

a management unit managing the hardware and firmware component knowledge database by controlling a process of a client accessing a desired hardware and firmware related electronic information component from said hardware and firmware related electronic information components constituting the hierarchical structure based on the meta-information.

Replace claim 4 with the following text.

4. The component management device according to claim 2, wherein the meta-information comprises access limiting information related to permission/non-permission of access to each hardware and firmware related electronic information component, and wherein said client accesses the desired hardware and firmware related electronic information component based on the access limiting information only when said client gets permission.

Replace claim 7 with the following text.

7. The component management device according to claim 2, wherein said management unit sends a notice of revision to said client via said network when a hardware and firmware related electronic information component already stored

in said storage unit is revised and sends a notice of new registration to said client via said network when a new hardware and firmware related electronic information component is registered in said storage unit, and wherein said client takes outaccesses said desired hardware and firmware related electronic information component at an arbitrary timing after said client receives the notice of revision or the notice of new registration.

Replace claim 9 with the following text.

9. A component development data management device comprising:

a storage unit storing hardware and firmware development data, including design, manufacture and inspection data, generated to constitute a product, as a component development knowledge database, wherein said hardware and said firmware development data, including the design, the manufacture and the inspection data, constituting said product are at a same management level; and
a management unit managing the component development knowledge database by controlling a process of a client accessing the hardware and firmware development data, including the design, the manufacture and the inspection data from said storage unit via a network, and conducting communications for getting a permission of quotation of a catalog of parts constituting said product based upon the hardware and firmware development data, including the design, the manufacture and the inspection data, with an author side client placed in the author side issuing the catalog and registering the catalog as a database in said storage unit when the management unit gets the permission.

Replace claim 10 with the following text.

10. A computer readable recording medium recording a component management program controlling a computer according to a process comprising:

storing hardware and firmware related electronic information components as a hardware and firmware component knowledge database, each hardware and firmware related electronic information component being electronic information generated during processes including design, development, manufacture, and inspection, of a product, wherein the hardware and firmware related electronic information components include at least one of a drawing of a hardware constituting the product, a firmware, a program, a specification, and a contract for the product, as the electronic information,

wherein said hardware and firmware related electronic information components as a variety of electronic information generated during the processes including the design, development, manufacture, and inspection of the product constitute a hierarchical structure in which the hardware and firmware related electronic information components are stored according to a numbering system common to both hardware and firmware electronic information components and added to each hardware, and firmware electronic information component,

wherein the storing comprises storing meta information according to Extensible Markup Language (XML) data expressing the hierarchical structure of the hardware and firmware related electronic information components, and wherein said hardware and firmware related electronic information components constituting said product are at a same management level; and

managing the component knowledge database by controlling a process of a client accessing a desired hardware and firmware related electronic information component from said hardware and firmware related electronic information components constituting the hierarchical structure based on the meta-information.

Replace claim 11 with the following text.

11. A component knowledge system, comprising:

a programmed computer processor controlling the component knowledge system according to a process comprising: generating, storing and managing meta-information by treating at same management level varyingly managed and related electronic information components that are hardware and firmware related electronic information generated in processes including design, development, manufacture, and inspection, of a product and include at least one of a drawing of a hardware constituting the product, a firmware, a program, a specification, and a contract constituting the product,

wherein said hardware and firmware related electronic information components as a variety of electronic information generated during the processes including the design, development, manufacture and inspection of the product constitute a hierarchical structure in which the hardware and firmware related electronic information components are stored according to a numbering system common to both hardware and firmware electronic information components and added to each hardware and firmware electronic information component, and

wherein the meta information is stored according to Extensible Markup Language (XML) data expressing the hierarchical structure of the hardware and firmware related electronic information components and controlling a process of a client accessing a desired stored hardware and firmware related electronic information component from said hardware and firmware related electronic information components constituting the hierarchical structure based on the meta-information.